



**Minutes of the
ALAMEDA FREE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
July 14, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Alameda Free Library Board was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mike Hartigan, President
Catherine Atkin, Board Member
Gail Wetzork, Board Member
Suzanne Whyte, Board Member

Absent: Kristy Perkins, Board Member

Staff: Jane Chisaki, Library Director
Arta Benzi-Youssef, Supervising Librarian
Marsha Merrick, Recording Secretary

President Hartigan started the meeting by welcoming new Board Member, Catherine Atkin. The other board members introduced themselves, and Member Atkin provided her background information.

CONSENT CALENDAR

An asterisk indicates items so accepted or approved on the Consent Calendar.

- A. *Report from the Library Director Highlighting Activities for the Month of July 2010.
- B. *Draft Minutes of the Regular Library Board Meeting of June 9, 2010.
- C. *Library Services Report for the Month of May 2010.
- D. *Financial Report Reflecting FY10 Expenditures by Fund for June 2010.
- E. *Bills for Ratification for the Month of June 2010.

President Hartigan asked for a wording change to the June minutes on page 3 under Library Board Communications. Hartigan had participated in the Edison School Literacy Day; the minutes had incorrectly stated the school name as Lincoln. Recording Secretary Merrick will make the change.

Member Whyte inquired if the Library would be capturing statistics on the new Book Machine at Alameda Point. Director Chisaki confirmed this, saying stats would be available on the July report.

President Hartigan asked for a motion to accept the Consent Calendar as presented. Member Whyte so moved; Member Atkin seconded the motion which carried by a 4-0 vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA (Public Comment)

Li Volin had attended the Grand Opening of the Alameda Point Book Machine and said it had been great fun, and that everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Neighborhood Library Improvement Project (G. Wetzork)

City Engineer Barbara Hawkins spoke to the Board about modifying their MOU to provide an increase in fees for the project. Hawkins stated that Public Works was doing much more of the construction management than originally planned, as they are sending someone to the West End worksite daily. Public Works had initially thought that Noll & Tam would be doing more of this day to day management themselves. The original amount designated to Public Works in the MOU had been \$67,000; the increase would bring that number up to \$117,000. After some questions by the Board, Member Wetzork moved to accept the fee increase; Member Whyte seconded the motion which carried by a 4-0 vote.

Director Chisaki introduced Supervising Librarian Arta Benzi-Youssef and Art Consultant Regina Almaguer. Ms. Almaguer introduced Owen Smith, providing his extensive background as an internationally known artist. Smith showed renderings of the artwork he is proposing for the West End Library, and gave a slide show presentation of some of his other work. The Board was very impressed, and urged that staff move forward and get a contract signed with Smith.

Alyson Yarus of Noll & Tam spoke about the West End's construction schedule, saying that the contractor was being very aggressive and expected the work to be done by the end of August. Yarus asked when the work could start on the Bay Farm location; Director Chisaki said it could begin in October. All the pipes had been replaced at the West End and a taste test had been done. All agreed that the water tasted fine, so the decision was made not to replace the pipe from the building to the street main at this time.

Yarus revealed new options proposed by color consultant Angelisse Karol for exterior paint at Bay Farm. After some discussion, the board voted for the red, yellow and green combination (color scheme #2), and accepted the proposal for the window frames to be done in a dark brown.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Alameda Free Library Board Going Dark in the Month of August (J. Chisaki)

The Board discussed following City Council's lead by going dark in the month of August. Director Chisaki said there shouldn't be anything pressing on the agenda, as all business regarding the branch upgrade project had just been discussed. Member Whyte moved that the Board go dark in August; Member Wetzork seconded the motion which carried by a 4-0 vote.

B. Election of Officers (M. Hartigan)

President Hartigan opened up the floor for nominations. Member Whyte nominated Hartigan to continue on as Board President, and he said he would be delighted to serve. Member Wetzork so moved; Member Atkin seconded the motion. Member Wetzork then nominated Member Whyte for Vice President; all Board members were in favor.

C. Alameda Free Library Foundation (J. Chisaki)

Foundation President Luzanne Engh was present at the meeting and gave the report. They had been working on their financial policy and had just moved \$500,000 into a stock and bond fund. The Foundation is now ready to write a check to the Library for \$7,500. They are also working on naming opportunities at the branches. The Foundation website is being re-vamped, and will soon include the ability to purchase tickets on-line for the 2010 "Live @ the Library" series. The major sponsors for the events are Perforce Software, Clear Com and Bank of Alameda. With their support, all event expenses should be covered, allowing for a larger profit margin.

D. Friends of the Alameda Free Library (M. Lambert)

Marc Lambert reported that there had been no Friends meeting in July, but they will meet again in August. A reminder was given about the next book sale on October 15-17. Angela's Friday Night Flights proceeds on three Fridays in July will benefit the Friends of the Library.

E. Patron Suggestions/Comments (Speak-Outs) and Library Director's Response

None.

LIBRARY BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

None.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Director Chisaki showed a picture of the construction sign that was put up in front of the West End library. Once the work has started on the Bay Farm library, the sign will be moved there. Chisaki then showed pictures of artist Kana Tanaka's work in progress which will go into the renovated Bay Farm library upon completion.

Invites to the End of Summer Reading Ceremony were passed out to all Board members. Because President Hartigan will not be available to represent the Library Board at the event, that responsibility will be passed over to new Board Vice President Whyte.

On Saturday, July 17, from 1:00-4:00 p.m., a Civic Center Visioning Project Open House will be held in the old Carnegie Library across the street from City Hall if anyone is interested in attending.

Finally, Chisaki passed around pictures of the new Book Machine Grand Opening, showing that everyone was indeed having a lot of fun.

ADJOURNMENT

President Hartigan asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. Member Wetzork so moved; Vice President Whyte seconded the motion which carried by a 4-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jane Chisaki", written in a cursive style.

Jane Chisaki, Library Director and
Secretary to the Alameda Free Library Board